Updates from COP24 Negotiations on NDCs and ETF

Programme:
- Main outcomes from COP24 by the UNFCCC
- Outcomes on ICTU and accounting of NDCs by co-facilitators Ms. Federica Fricano and Mr. Sin Liang Cheah
- Outcomes on Enhanced Transparency Framework by co-facilitator Mr. Xiang Gao
- Q&A Session
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

NDC Spotlight
*Webinar Series*

Updates from COP24 Negotiations on NDCs and ETF

23 January 2019
UNFCCC is having these webinars since 2017
➢ to elaborate and discuss NDCs
➢ to learn about latest news

Previous recordings available: https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions/ndc-spotlight

2019 NDC Spotlight Themes
❖ Planning for NDCs
❖ Support for NDCs
❖ News on NDCs

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Outcomes of COP24 on PAWP
Katowice Outcomes on PAWP

• COP24 Katowice/Poland, 2-15 December 2018
• Significant milestone for the implementation of the Paris Agreement
✓ Essential details of the operational guidance for the implementation of the Paris Agreement adopted
✓ Modalities, procedures and/or guidelines in place for all (except Article 6) implementation arrangements under the Paris Agreement
✓ Katowice Outcome chartered a new phase – enabling the world to enter into full implementation mode of the Paris Agreement
✓ Represents the intention of the governments and non-Party actors to undertake robust and ambitious climate action through multilateral setting
✓ There are a few follow-up technical work – for example in the area of enhanced transparency framework – to develop reporting tables and formats, and outlines of reports
✓ Today’s webinar will touch on outcomes under two of the numerous negotiation tracks
# Negotiation Tracks

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<th>Track Type</th>
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<td>Blue Track</td>
<td>Further Guidance in Relation to Mitigation Section of Decision 1/CP.21</td>
<td>Ms. Federica Fricano (Italy)</td>
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<td>Mr. Sin Liang Cheah (Singapore)</td>
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<td>Transparency Framework for Action and Support under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement</td>
<td>Mr. Xiang Gao (China)</td>
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<td>Mr. Andrew Rakestraw (USA)</td>
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Further guidance in relation to the mitigation section of decision 1/CP.21

(a) Features of NDCs
(b) Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding of NDCs
(c) Accounting for Parties’ NDCs
Katowice Outcome – General Overview

• Very successful COP - the substantive outcome under this agenda item exceeded many Parties’ expectations
• Parties were working together to get an outcome that all could equally live with
• The task was to develop further guidance in relation to the mitigation section of the Paris decisions (1/CP.21) for features, information (iCTU) and accounting for NDCs
  • Substantive outcomes on guidance for iCTU and Accounting for NDCs
  • Revision of the guidance on iCTU and Accounting for NDCs in 2027, after experiences with the preparation and implementation of NDCs and the first GST
  • Further guidance on Features to be discussed in 2024
Various Parties felt that it was premature to elaborate guidance on Features at this time given the lack of experience and the need to avoid reopening the Paris Agreement or upsetting its balance.

Agreement that further guidance on Features will continue to be discussed in 2024.

This decision allows Parties to gain more experiences with the implementation of the Paris Agreement, the preparation and submission of NDCs and the stock-taking exercise during the GST, before further determining what further guidance on Features is needed.
Katowice Outcome – iCTU for NDCs

- iCTU guidance based on elaboration of information elements identified in paragraph 27 of the Paris decisions
- iCTU guidance shall be applied from the second NDCs onwards – but Parties are strongly encouraged to apply guidance when communicating/updating first/current NDCs, including when doing so by 2020
- Guidance on information elements will not be applied on a “one-size-fits-all” basis but Parties will draw from the guidance as applicable to their respective NDCs
- iCTU guidance will apply to contributions pursuant to Article 4.7 of the Paris Agreement and is without prejudice to inclusion of components other than mitigation in an NDC and Parties can provide other information
- iCTU guidance will help make NDCs more transparent and understandable to other governments, the civil society and the private sector, and can act as a checklist for those compiling and preparing NDCs
Katowice Outcome – Accounting for NDCs

Article 4.13 - Parties shall account for their NDCs...in doing so Parties shall promote environmental integrity, transparency, accuracy, completeness, comparability and consistency and ensure the avoidance of double counting in accordance to guidance

Decision 1/cp.21 para 31 – Guidance to ensure that Parties:
• Account according to methodology and common metrics assessed by the IPCC
• Ensure methodological consistency between communication and implementation of NDC
• Strive to include all categories of emissions and removals
• Explain why if any category is excluded

Pursuant to the mandates from the Paris Agreement and the Paris decision, all Parties shall apply the guidance, which:
✓ Establishes a link to the transparency framework for common metrics and methodologies (IPCC guidelines), provides guidance for use of own methodologies and for policies and measures, addresses emissions from land sector
✓ Provides rules for applying technical changes to update reference points, reference levels or projections, defines the kind of technical adjustment that can be made and for ensuring methodological consistency
Katowice Outcome – Accounting for NDCs

✓ Calls on Parties to strive to include all their emissions and removals as per their NDCs, and establishes the principle of “not backsliding”
✓ Requires Parties to explain why a category is not included.

And
✓ Stresses the avoidance of double counting as a key principle;
✓ Provides that the accounting guidance is also applicable to mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans.

The information on accounting will be provided in the biennial transparency reports, including through a structured summary and shall be applied from the second NDCs onwards, but Parties may elect to apply guidance to their first NDC.
Katowice Outcome – Capacity Building

The decision recognizes the different starting points, capacities and national circumstances of Parties and highlights the importance of capacity building support for the preparation and communication of NDCs;

It reaffirms that support shall be provided to developing countries for implementing Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, including the preparation, communication and accounting for their NDCs. It also
• encourages the relevant operating entities of the Financial Mechanism and constituted bodies under the Convention to continue to provide capacity-building support; and
• invites other organizations to provide support for capacity building.

The strong emphasis on capacity building support is a central element of this decision as it is a key enabler to help developing country Parties to apply and improve their implementation of the guidance.

The decision also reaffirms the special circumstances of LDCs and SIDS in accordance with Article 4.6 of the Paris Agreement (soft differentiation).
Katowice Outcome – Overcoming the Political Discussion

Issues to balance during the negotiation:

• Avoid re-interpretation of the language of the Paris Agreement
• Respect its legal character and its structure;
• Nevertheless allow for national specificity and sovereignty.

In particular:

• Avoiding “bifurcated guidance” (i.e. separate guidance for developed and developing countries). Eventual agreement on common guidance on ICTU and Accounting for NDCs. Parties shall draw from the information elements in the ICTU guidance as applicable to their respective NDCs.

• But recognizing different starting points (capacity building).

• Not broadening the “scope” of the NDC, which remains mitigation centric, but allowing for Parties to provide other information (adaptation, means of implementation) with guidance established by the relevant parts of the Paris Agreement.
Modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework for action and support under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement
An interpretation of transparency outcome from COP24 at Katowice

Xiang GAO
(Energy Research Institute, National Development and Reform Commission, China)

UNFCCC Webinar
2019-01-23
## Where are we and how we get here?

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Where do we want to go and how do we get there?
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23 January 2019

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